

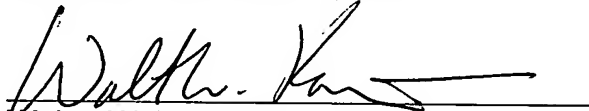
Remarks:

Applicants respectfully request that the above amendments to the present application be entered preliminary to its examination. These amendments, and the following remarks, are made in view of a September 23, 2003 Office action received in connection with prosecution of the parent to this application. While applicants understand that such comments do not bear directly on the present application, it is believed that the present amendments may address any issues which might otherwise impede prosecution of this application.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments prior to consideration of the application on the merits. Applicants further submit that all claims are now in suitable form and content for examination. If the Examiner has any questions, or if a telephone interview would in any way advance prosecution of the application, please contact the undersigned attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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Christie A. Doolittle